MEMBER SWORN.

Mr. A. Gopala Menon (*Director of Public Instruction*) took the oath and signed the Rolls.

LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS.

THE TRAVANCORE CHILD MARRIAGE RESTRAINT BILL.

PRESIDENT: Where do we stand, Mr. Legal Remembrancer?

MR. PUTHUPALLI S. KRISHNA PILLAI: We are at the third reading of the Bill.

PRESIDENT: I suggested that there should be a conference.

MR. PUTHUPALLI S. KRISHNA PILLAI: There does not appear to have any conference held. Both parties have sent up amendments which have been admitted. We may proceed with the discussion of those amendments.

PRESIDENT: Has the Legal Remembrancer looked into what is called the drafting side of the amendments?

MR. PUTHUPALLI S. KRISHNA PILLAI: No, Sir. But if the amendments are admitted there will be nothing wrong in the form.

SRIMATI T. NARAYANI AMMA (*Nominated*): Sir, in the light of the discussion that took place at the last meeting of the Assembly on my amendments and especially in view of the difficulties pointed out by the Chair, I beg to move the following amendment to clause 11:—

> "In Clause 11, line 2, for the word "family" substitute the word "marriage" and after the words "in that behalf" and before the word "within" in line 3, add the following "by the legal guardian of the bride or bridegroom whoever is a child".

PRESIDENT: The honourable member will very kindly read the clause as amended.

SRIMATI T. NARAYANI AMMA: The clause amended will read thus:

> "Our Government may, by notification in the Government Gazette exempt any marriage in Travancore from the operation of this Act, on application made in that behalf by the legal guardian of the bride or bridegroom whoever is a child within six months of the passing of this Act."

Sir, I do not think that a long speech is necessary in support of this amendment. I have already pointed out at the last meeting of the Assembly why I object to the word "family" in the new clause *viz.*, clause 11, added to the bill. There are also legal difficulties to which the Chair has drawn the attention of the House. The amendment I have moved will obviate those difficulties and I am sure it will satisfy the sentiments of those honourable members who wanted such an exemption clause. All that I want, Sir, is that the effect of this bill should not in any way be nullified by clause 11. I may be permitted to point out, in this connection, that such an exemption clause does not find a place in similar Acts passed elsewhere on the subject. In the matter

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